

1. An improved blade for a shovel, comprising:
2 a scoop portion having a width, a length, and a leading edge; and
a plurality of concave scallops on the leading edge.
2. The improved shovel of claim 1, wherein:
2 the width of the scoop portion ranges between 6 and 24 inches; and
the number of scallops ranges between 3 and 12.
3. The improved shovel of claim 1, wherein:
2 the scallops include a curved portion having a radius between two points spaced
apart by a distance 'd'; and
4 the radius of each scallop, 'r,' is greater than $d/2$.
4. The improved shovel of claim 1, wherein:
2 the scallops include a curved portion having a radius between two points spaced
apart by a distance 'd'; and
4 the radius of each scallop, 'r,' is substantially equal to 'd'.
5. The improved shovel of claim 1, wherein:
2 the scallops include a curved portion having a radius between two points spaced
apart by a distance 'd'; and
4 the radius of each scallop, 'r,' is greater than 'd'.
6. The improved shovel of claim 1, wherein the scallops are substantially
2 identical.
7. The improved shovel of claim 1, wherein the scoop portion is configured
2 for snow shoveling.

- 2 8. The improved shovel of claim 1, wherein the scoop portion includes
stiffening ribs.
- 2 9. The improved shovel of claim 1, wherein the scoop portion is configured
for gardening.
- 2 10. The improved shovel of claim 1, wherein the scoop portion is configured
for ice scraping.
- 2 11. The improved shovel of claim 1, wherein the leading edge is attached to
the scoop portion.
- 2 12. The improved shovel of claim 1, wherein the leading edge and scoop
portion are constructed from dissimilar materials.